



Tapu'itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Friday
November 21,
2006

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER Vol. I, No. 31

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Governor's 2006 Thanksgiving Message

“THE MANY BLESSINGS OF OUR ISLAND HOME”

We all gather as a people this week with family and friends, congregations and groups, to give thanks to Our Heavenly Father for the many blessing of our island home.

The bounty of these islands that we call home has always been great. It has allowed us to grow and prosper and we are thankful for another year of life, made better through God's countless blessing for American Samoa.

Our Thanksgiving blessing is more than the wonderful and delicious feast that we share across the islands. It is even more luscious than the beautiful green mountains and blue sea that surrounds our island community. Our Thanksgiving blessing is special because we have each other.

So many blessings and so much to be thankful for creates a special opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all of God's servants for keeping the flame of love and hope alive. We say thank you to all the family matai and our extended families, and all those who are dear to us that we were not able to visit throughout the year. Thanksgiving isn't just a time of gratitude. It is also a time of renewal and unity.

Perhaps the greatest blessing for us all is the blessing of freedom. And on this Thanksgiving celebration our prayers are with our sons and daughters in uniform off island. We ask God that He watch over all of our loved ones and give them strength to continue to protect and defend that freedom that we enjoy throughout the year.

My wife – Mary, Lieutenant Governor Ipulasi and Mrs. Elisapeta Sunia join me in asking God to continue to guide and watch over all the families of American Samoa. We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving Day!

Ia manuia le mafutaga a aiga uma a lo tatou atunu'u I lenei tausaga. Ia manuia le Aso Fa'afetai.

God's Peace and Blessing,

Togiola T. A. Tulafono
Governor of American Samoa



ASCC President Dr. Adele Satele-Galeai (far right) presides over the donation of a generous amount of fresh produce to Fatuoaga. The produce was displayed during Friday's Thanksgiving Cultural Day, a collaboration between Student Support Services and Land Grant, (L-R) Aufa'i Areta of Land Grant, Sister Sheila of Fatuoaga, Hipa Neria of Student Support Services, Dr. Satele-Galea'i.

(Photo: J. Kneubuhl)

ASCC Thanksgiving Cultural Event Showcases Healthy Food Choices

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

The Land Grant and Student Support Services (SSS) Divisions of the American Samoa Community College (ASCC) treated the campus community to a special celebration of nature's generosity during a Thanksgiving Cultural Day titled, "E Tamaoaga Samoa -- Samoa is blessed," this past Friday. Land Grant staff filled the College's auditorium with masses of fresh produce donated for display by Tutuila's farmers, while the SSS division provided an elaborate free meal based on local recipes for fresh fruit, vegetables and meat.

"We planned this event to give our students, as well as everyone at ASCC, an appreciation for traditional, healthy food that they themselves can grow," said SSS Director Dr. Repeka Nuusa. "The idea came from our visit to the dialysis unit at LBJ Hospital last month. The doctors there explained to the students that more patients in American Samoa suffer from diabetes and high blood pressure than any other illnesses. An unhealthy diet plays a big role in both of these sicknesses, which, by the way, our people did not begin to suffer in great numbers until they began eating mostly imported food."

Originally intended just as an opportunity to showcase healthy food options, the event took on another dimension when Dr. Nuusa invited Land Grant to participate. Land Grant hatched a plan to not only solicit local farmers to donate a wide variety of fresh produce, but also to set up information tables to inform students about career opportunities available in fields like Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. In preparation for the event, Dr. Nuusa, along with her staff and student participants, spent long hours preparing enough food for several hundred people. The cooking activity also gave SSS an opportunity to pass along recipes and cooking tips to the students involved. Along with their involvement in the meal preparation, Dr. Nuusa assigned her students the task of writing evaluations of the food and its nutritional value.

The event opened a prayer from English Language Institute Chairperson Elisapeta Faalafi-Jones, followed by welcoming remarks from Dr. Nuusa and Counselor Hipa Neria representing SSS, Extension Program Coordinator Aufa'i Apulu Ropeti Areta representing Land Grant, and ASCC President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i. The President expressed her concerns over dietary trends in American Samoa by sharing some alarming statistics. "Medical researchers have pinpointed diabetes as the number one killer of people of color around the world," she said. "More and more these days, I hear the fear expressed that if the Polynesian race continues with its current eating trends, in only a few generations we will become extinct. With this in mind, all of us need to learn as much as we can about nutrition, and change our harmful eating habits to healthy ones."

The meal that followed showed how eating healthy can still be fun, with participants enjoying an array of choices that ranged from the popular "SSS Fruit Salad" to the famous "Land Grant Smoothie," as well as numerous Samoan dishes prepared with natural ingredients. SSS and Land Grant kept the spirit of Thanksgiving alive by donating the massive amount of display produce to Fatuoaga at the conclusion of the event. Sister Shiela of Fatuoaga joined the festivities to accept the donation, which Land Grant delivered that afternoon.

ASCC wishes to acknowledge the following farmers and other donors who made the Thanksgiving Cultural Day a success: Jeffrey Satele, Vailoatai; Edward "Kuki" Avegalio, Pava'i'a'i; Teila Mariner, Fagaitua; Va'a Afoa, Taputimu; Larry Hirata, Pava'i'a'i; Lokeni Lokeni Jr., Malaeloa; Lau'ia Olive, Puapua Leone; Guang Zhe Jin; Ed Imo, Nu'u'uli; Fanene Siufaga, Malaeimi; Reverend Sauileone Aigofie, Ili'ili; Malo Sega, Sogi Leone; Barrit Sanmatua, Vaitogi; Pan Weichi, Vaitogi; Tai Chi-Hsien, Vaitogi; Tavita Ufuti, Vaitogi; Pito Malele, Tafuna; Paulo Talolo; Helen Lago; CNR Forestry Staff; CNR Agriculture Extension Staff; and CNR Families, 4-H & Nutrition.

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On November 12, 1898, in a *fono* at Leulumoega, Upolu, the orators of *Tumua* and *Pule* announced that Mata'afa Iosefo had been elected "King of Samoa."

On November 12, 1901, the court martial of American Samoa's first naval governor, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, was concluded. Tilley was acquitted of all charges, and the presiding officer, Rear Admiral Robley D. ("Fighting Bob") Evans, said that he was unable to "hide his disgust with the affair, or his pleasure at the outcome."

On November 12, 1953, Richard Barrett Lowe was appointed as the fortieth governor (and the fifth civil governor) of American Samoa by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay.

On November 13, 1850, Robert Louis Stevenson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

On November 13, 1912, American Samoa's Governor, Commander William Michael Crose, presided over the Sixth Annual Meeting between the Governor and the District Governors. He "expressed great satisfaction over the large increase in copra production—about 300,000 pounds over last year." He also noted that the government had a balance of \$8,200, as a result of increased funds from customs duties. Although no new schools were built that year, new teaching methods had shown success, and plans had been made to send young Samoans to Hawaii to train as teachers, at a yearly cost of \$100 per student. Governor Crose, along with the Director of Health, urged the people "to continue to build Samoan type houses which are healthier because of better ventilation. He also urged the preservation of the Samoan language and its proper usage."

On November 14, 1899, a tripartite commission, consisting of Freiherr Speck von Sternberg for Germany, Mr. C.E.N. Elliott for Britain and the Honorable Bartlett Tripp representing the United States, meeting aboard USS *Badger*, reached and signed an agreement for the partition of Samoa. Under the terms of this Tripartite Agreement, the United States gained control of Tutuila, Aunu'u and Manu'a. Germany was awarded the remaining Samoan islands, and gave up her claims in Tonga, and certain disputed areas in the Solomon Islands and in West Africa. Britain gave up her claims in Samoa in exchange for dominion over the Solomon Islands and a sphere of influence in Tonga.

On November 15, 1919, Governor Warren Jay Terhune established the Department of Public Works as the sixth department in the American Samoa Government.

On November 16, 1943, "more promotions for the [First] Samoan Battalion [U.S. Marine Corps Reserve] were authorized and two promotions to field cook, 18 promotions to corporal, and 6 promotions to assistant cook were made."

On November 17, 1984, the MV *Misimoo*—named for Harry Jay Moors, journalist, businessman, politician, author of *With Stevenson in Samoa* and founder of Samoa's Moors clan—sank in Pago Pago Harbor.

On November 18, 1974, torrential rains in northeast Upolu caused widespread flooding and landslides, which blocked or destroyed the Apia-Falefa road in several places. A family of seven were buried alive inside their *fale* at Solosolo.

On November 19, 1943, at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, the Ships' Service Department closed, with a cash balance certified by the Bank of Samoa to be \$40,000. It was replaced by the Base Depot Post Exchange, operating the Naval Station Store as Branch No. 10.

On November 20, 1918, American Samoa's governor, Commander John Martin Poyer, offered to send volunteer medical personnel to Western Samoa to assist with the treatment of influenza victims. Western Samoa's Administrator, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Logan, pocketed Poyer's telegram and disconnected the telegraph, because he was too stubborn to accept aid, and "didn't like Americans." At least 8,500 people were killed by the flu in Western Samoa; probably the highest percentage of any country in the world. In American Samoa, which the Navy strictly quarantined, no one died; one of the few places which was not affected by the influenza pandemic.

To'atele o le 'Au Fai-Lafumanu e le o Silafia le Tulafono, Peita'i Latou te Fia

Faia Suiga o lo'o Manaomia

Ua mae'a nei le vaega muamua o le porokalame a le Team Lepto, po'o le vaega e tete'e i le Leposipairosi, o lo'o aofia ai sui mai le Ofisa o le Si'osi'omaga I Amerika Samoa (ASEPA) fa'apea ma nisi mai le Kolisi Tu'u'afa'atasi i Amerika Samoa Ofisa o Laufanua ma Atina'e. O le ulua'i vaega o lea porokalame na talatalanoa ai sui o le Team Lepto ma le mamalu o le atunu'u, 'ae maise i latou e fai-fagana, i le fa'ama'i o le Leposipairosi atoa ai ma aiaiga o le tulafono o lo'o taupulea lafumanu i Amerika Samoa. Sa va'ava'aia fo'i e le Team Lepto tulaga o le fausiaina o fale-pua'a i nu'u ma alalafaga ta'itasi. Ma o se fa'apupulaga lenei o nei asiasiga:

E 940 fale-pua'a ma e 7,800 mea'itua'olo ua fa'amaumauina e lenei porokalame i Amerika Samoa (Tutuila, Aunu'u ma Manu'a). Mai le 940 o fale-pua'a o i Amerika Samoa, pe a ma le 912 fale-pua'a (97%) ua fa'amaonia e le o talafeagai ma le tulafono. E ui i lea, o le to'atele o le 'au-failafumanu ua fa'apea mai latou te fia faia suiga o lo'o mana'omia ina ia talafeagai ai a latou fale-pua'a ma le tulafono. O le fausia lelei o fale-pua'a ina ia talafeagai ma le tulafono, o se tasi lea o 'auala e puipua ai le tatou suavai, e aofia ai alavai, matafaga, ae maise le tatou suavai taumafa. E le gata i lea, ae puipua ai fo'i tatou mai fa'ama'i 'ese'ese, e pei o le leposipairosi, ona o le fa'aleagaina o suavai i otaota lafoa'i a mea'itua'olo.

O le fa'afitauli sa tele ona va'aia, o le fausia lea o fale-pua'a e aunoa ma se Pemita mo Galuega I Fanua (LUP) e pei ona fa'atapula'aina e le tulafono. Pe a ma le 865 fale-pua'a (92%) ua fa'amaonia e le o iai ni pemita e pei ona ta'ua. O le fa'afitauli lona lua, o le le fausia lelei o nofoaga e tu'u i ai otaota lafoa'i o nei meaola. Pe a ma le 771 o fale-pua'a (82%) o lo'o fa'aalu sa'o otaota lafoa'i a latou mea'itua'olo i totonu o alavai, po'o lo'o fa'aogaina lua po'o ni septic e le fa'asimaina, ma e ono afaina ai le tatou suavai. E 564 fale-pua'a (60%) ua fausia latalata tele i maota, po'o nisi fale-nofo. Ma e 216 fale-pua'a (23%) o lo'o fausia latalata tele i alavai. O le tulafono, e ao ona 50 futu le mamao o se fale-pua'a mai se fale-nofo, fa'apea ma alavai. Mai le aofa'i o fale-pua'a ua faita'ina (940), e 282 fale-pua'a (30%) e le mafai ona usita'i i lea vaega o le tulafono, ona e le lava le tele o laufanua. Ma o tulaga fa'apenei, e mana'omia le ave'eseca o le fale-pua'a.

O se tala fiafia ua maua mai i le 'au-failafumanu, pe a ma le 80% o e sa asia, ua fa'apea mai o le a latou o e fa'asavali pemita o lo'o mana'omia mo a latou fale-pua'a, ona o fa'amalamalama'aga ua latou maua mai i le Team Lepto. O le fa'amoemoe, o le a amata i le masina fou le Vaega II on lenei porokalame. O le toe asiasi atu o sui mai le EPA e va'ava'ai fale-pua'a, ma fa'amaua tulaga o nei nofoaga ta'itasi e ao ona faia ina ia talafeagai ma le tulafono. Ona tu'u atu lea o le 30 aso e galuea'i ai le ona le fale-pua'a ina ia faia suiga o lo'o mana'omia.

E fiafia lava lenei ofisa (ASEPA) ona o le talia aloa'ia o lenei fe'au taua, e pei ona molia atu i aiga ta'itasi. E pei ona saunoa mai ai le Afioaga i le Kovana i nai aso ua mavae, 'E ao ona tatou fa'autagia lapata'iga mai matagaluega 'ese'ese o lo'o galulue mo se fofa o lenei fa'afitauli, ma e mana'omia lava le tatou galulue fa'atasi ina ia fa'atama'ia ai lenei fa'afitauli o loo lamatia ai lo tatou soifua maloloina.'

E momoli atu se fa'afetai fa'alelava a le ASEPA i lau Afioaga Mauga T. Asuega (Failautusi o Mata'upu Tau-Samoa), Tofa ia Nanai K.S. Afuola (Sui-Failautusi o Mata'upu Tau-Samoa), fa'apea ma Susuga i Pulenu'u ona o le latou fesoasoani i lenei porokalame ina ua o'o atu i nu'u ma alalafaga. E fa'apitoa fo'i le matou fa'afetai i le mamalu o le atunu'u ona o le sapasapaia o lenei galuega, ae maise le 'au fai-lafumanu i le lagolagosua mai o nei taumafaiga e ala i le taliaina o matou i outou maota ma laoa.

Fa'amolemole fa'afeso'ota'i mai le Ofisa o le Si'osi'omaga i Amerika Samoa mo nisi fa'amatalaga au'ili'ili i le 633-2304.

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ASCC President Chosen for Membership in WASC Accrediting Commission

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer



Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i, President of the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), recently received word of her nomination by the Pacific Postsecondary Educational Council (PPEC), to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), a division of Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). "Throughout the areas of the U.S and its territories served by the ACCJC, every institute of higher education faces its own challenges in maintaining its WASC accreditation," she says. "I feel excited at the opportunity to observe and evaluate the solutions other colleges and universities come up with to meet these challenges, and I know these fresh perspectives will provide me with insights I can apply to my own duties here at the College." Dr. Satele-Galea'i will begin her work on the ACCJC in June, 2007.

The ASCC President actively serves on the PPEC, to whom the ACCJC traditionally assigns one membership slot. An organization of public colleges and universities in the American affiliated Pacific islands, the PPEC includes members from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of

the Marshall Islands, and the State of Hawaii, who have agreed to work together to address regional and local postsecondary education issues. Established in 1981, the PPEC works to facilitate inter-institutional collaboration enhance transfer and articulation opportunities for students, strengthen teacher development and information sharing, and encourage capacity-building and workforce development. When Dr. Satele-Galea'i joins the ACCJC next summer, she will take over from current PPEC representative Sue Moses.

"The PPEC considers it crucial step forward that one of its members serves on the ACCJC," she explained. "The institutes of higher learning in the American Pacific operate under a unique set of conditions and face a whole different set of challenges from our counterparts in Hawaii and the mainland. Having a PPEC member serving on the ACCJC helps bridge the gap between the mainland and the Pacific perspectives." Dr. Satele-Galea'i says duties with the ACCJC will "only occasionally" shift her attention away from ASCC. "My work with the Commission will require me to travel for only about a week's time during any given semester," she said. "In addition, not every Commission member participates in every evaluation carried out by the ACCJC. This avoids potential conflicts of interest, where Commission members might end up on the team evaluating the same institution they work for."

Dr. Satele-Galea'i has served as ASCC President since 2001. Shortly after beginning the job, she completed the Harvard Institute for College Presidents, a leadership seminar that brought together first-year and aspiring college leaders from across the nation. Previously, Dr. Satele-Galea'i served for five years as Director of the ASCC Office of Institutional Advancement (now known as the Office of Institutional Effectiveness). She completed her doctorate degree in Public Administration from Golden Gate University in 2000. The President also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from Brigham Young University, which she earned in 1973, and an MSW in Clinical Social Work from University of Southern California, which she received in 1977. "Having worked in American Samoa's education system as a teacher, an administrator, and now as the College President, I often reflect on how we should welcome opportunities to learn more through accepting new challenges. Once we get too comfortable in a certain role, we run the risk of losing touch with the changes going on all around us. I feel that always striving for the next level of service keeps my outlook on things fresh, and for this reason I welcome the professional growth that will come with serving on the ACCJC."

As a member of the ACCJC, Dr. Satele-Galea'i's responsibilities will include attendance at all Commission meetings; reviewing relevant documents and data prior to these meetings; serving as an in-depth reader of evaluation visit materials as assigned; voting according to her best professional judgment in light of existing policies and standards; participating on Commission committees; and attending and actively participating in Commission activities such as evaluation team visits and retreats. Dr. Satele-Galea'i reflected, "I will consider it a privilege to work with the ACCJC, because I believe ASCC can take pride in its current accreditation status. Despite our size, accreditation by the ACCJC gives us something in common with distinguished mainland schools such as Heald College, Marymount College, Oxnard College, San Diego City College, and Western Career College, to name only a few."

For more information on the ACCJC and its activities, visit the WASC web page at: <http://www.wascweb.org>.

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with our ASG workforce
as well as the citizens of American Samoa.
Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other
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Deadline for submissions is Thursday @ noon.

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